

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of claims 1-12 of US Patent No. 6,945,307. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the attached Terminal Disclaimer which is being submitted merely to expedite prosecution, it is submitted that this rejection should now be overcome and withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(f) and 103(a)

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(f) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 3-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by McCabe. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over McCabe. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 Stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over McCabe in view of Hsieh. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The amended claim 1 has a forging blank for use in forging a golf club head includes a bending portion which is preformed in a casting procedure so that steps of a following forging procedure for forming the bending portion are reduced. It is further has the forging blank with a club head portion and a hosel portion preformed in the casting procedure for ease of the following forging procedure.

The amended claim 2 is further has each of the club head portion and the hosel portion has a substantially circular section for facilitating forging operation.

In contrast, Applicant's Admitted Prior-Art fails to disclose a blank having a bending portion preformed in a casting procedure for use in forging a golf club head. Conversely, Applicant's Admitted Prior-Art discloses a blank 83 not for use in a forging procedure. Instead, as best shown in FIGS. 2D and 2E, Applicant's Admitted Prior-Art discloses a blank 83 for processing several surface finishing procedures to produce a golf club head. See Page 2 line 19 to Page 3 line 1. Obviously, Applicant's Admitted Prior-Art

fails to disclose a combination of casting and forging procedures for forming a golf club head.

As to USPN6524194, no blank preformed in a casting procedure for use in forging a golf club head is disclosed. Instead, USPN6524194 discloses a first portion 22 which is cast in a casting procedure. Also, USPN6524194 fails to disclose a combination of casting and forging procedures for forming a golf club head.

Obviously, none of the references applied in the official action, Admitted Prior-Art, USPN6524194 USPN5167733, discloses or suggests a combination of casting and forging procedures for forming a golf club head as claimed in the present invention.

In consideration of lack of teaching a blank made by casting for use in forging, there is no reasonable expectation of success for the modification either of the blank 83 in AAPA or the first portion 22 in USPN6524194 for reducing steps of a forging procedure in manufacturing a golf club head. One of ordinary skill in the art could not possibly, in the absence of hindsight, have conceived of using either of the blank 83 in AAPA or the first portion 22 in USPN6524194 to achieve such a blank of the claimed invention.

As such, it is requested that the 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections now be reconsidered and withdrawn. All claims should now be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are solicited.

Because the additional documents cited by the Examiner have been included merely to show the state of the prior art and have not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents should be necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Application No. 10/823,577
Amendment dated January 9, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 7, 2005

Docket No.: 3624-0165PUS1

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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